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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL

pplication of: Baugh, et al.

For: Autologous Platelet Gel Delivery System

Serial No.: 09/832,729 Filed: 04/09/2001

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8 I hereby certify that this ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL AND TRANSMITTAL and the paper(s), as described herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this day of March, 2005.

Signatule

Jo L. Brecht Printed Name

Attn: Box ISSUE FEE
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Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

arch 25, 2005

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- Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, if an extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for an extension of time and charge same to Deposit Account 13-2546.
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Dato

Atty: Jeffrey J. Hohenshel

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert F. Baugh, et al. Examiner: Matthew F. Desanto

Serial No.: 09/832,729 Group Art Unit: 3736

Filing Date: 04/09/01 Docket No.: P-9520.00

Title: AUTOLOGOUS PLATELET GEL DELIVERY SYSTEM

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 25th day of March, 2005.

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Printed Name

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Applicants agree that the claims in this case are in condition for allowance, and thank the Examiner for passing this case to issue. The Notice of Allowance included the blanket statement, "The examiner has interpreted the claims to invoke 35 U.S.C. 112 6th paragraph, and therefore his interpret[ation] of the claims must have the structure as described in the specification and must also work in the same manner as described in the specification." Applicants respectfully disagree.

In a claim, the word "means" is "part of the classic template for functional claim elements." *Rodime PLC*, v. Seagate Technology, Inc., 174 F.3d 1294 (Fed. Cir. 1999) citing Sage Products, Inc. v. Devon Industries, Inc., 126 F.3d 1420, 1427 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

To determine whether a claim element falls within § 112, ¶6 use of the word "means" raises a presumption that the patentee advisedly used the word to invoke the statutory mandate for means-plus-function clauses. *Rodime PLC*. In the absence of the word "means", the presumption does not apply. In the present case, there are many claims that do not use the term "means" and therefore, applicant does not believe that the all of the claims should be interpreted to invoke 35 U.S.C. 112 6th paragraph. Even the claims that do use the term "means" should not, under appropriate examination guidelines or case law relating to claim interpretation, be strictly limited to strictly the "structure as described in the specification and must also work in the same manner."

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Respectfully submitted,

В

Jeffrey J. Høhenshell